

Security and Medicare will begin to feel the burden of the retiring baby boomers. And yet it seems that few are willing to face the reality of this pending crisis. We still have too many without adequate access to health care, even though we have the very best medical assets in the history of the world.

I have had the honor of representing the world's largest medical center, the Texas Medical Center, with some of the greatest researchers and institutions on the planet and yet, even with its dedicated staff and investment, within a mile of these fine people and institutions too many of our fellow citizens lack access to the benefits of their care.

We still have too many Americans struggling to make ends meet, even though we have proven to have the most efficient and successful economic model.

We still face dangers and threats, even though we have the strongest military, by far. Our democracy and way of life may well face threats if we do not act, not merely to defend ourselves and our allies, but to eradicate poverty and tyranny throughout the world. The growing number of poor throughout the world is immoral and should be unacceptable to a free and democratic society such as ours. Failure to use our economic might and commitment to freedom and individual liberty can only result in a greater threat to our own freedoms.

The challenges are too great to ignore, but I believe the people of this body possess the ability, if they muster the will. As America continues to lead, we must confront those issues before they confront us.

Mr. Speaker, mine has been a tremendous experience for which I am truly grateful to my constituents. I have always tried my best to represent not just those who voted for me but those who voted for someone else and those who did not vote at all. I have had the benefit of serving alongside some of the finest individuals I will ever meet, from both parties and Independents, and while their friendship will endure, more importantly, as I return to private life, I am comforted in knowing that the leadership of the Nation remains in such competent and committed hands.

My tenure in the House would not have been at all successful had it not been for the excellent staff who tirelessly served the people of the 25th district and our Nation. Often going unnoticed, these individuals deserve the credit for a job well done, as I know Members would agree about their own staff. I would like to take a moment to read their names into the RECORD, because they deserve to be inscribed in the history of this body for the work they have done.

Mr. Speaker, if my colleagues permit me, they are as follows: of my current staff, Ms. Willie Belle Boone, Ms. Jessica de la Torre-Sauceda, Ms. Bradley

Edgell, Ms. Ashley Etienne, Ms. Lisa Hallford, Ms. Gabrielle Hargrove, Ms. Victoria Johnson, Ms. Amber Moon, Ms. Brenda Murphy, Mr. Dominic Nguyen, Ms. Hava Rothman, Mr. J.J. Slater, Ms. Pat Strong, Mr. Andrew Wallace, the Honorable Ed Watson, and Ms. Barbara Winters.

Of our former staff, Mr. Ron Allen, Mr. Stephen Brown, Ms. Rosemary Burkland, Mr. Lloyd Chinn, Ms. Rosaline Cohen, Mr. Mark Daley, Ms. Audrey Duff, Ms. Natalya Estridge, Mr. Ruben Garcia, Ms. Jennifer Goodman, Ms. Meredith Grabois, Mr. Stephen Hofmann, Mr. Jonathan Kaplan, Mr. Lincoln Loble, Thomas Mayo, Ms. Sandy McManus, Mr. Gary Palmquist, Ms. Sonya Pastor, Ms. Diane Patterson, Mr. Isaac Pesin, Ms. Sheryl Roppolo, Ms. Patricia Rojas, Ms. Susan Schieffer, Ms. Jessica Segal, Ms. Lisa Sherrod, Mr. Whet Smith, Ms. Samantha Smoot, Ms. Barbara Stalder, Ms. Kathryn Tsuchida, Mr. Jeremy Warren, Mr. Vince Willmore, Ms. Jennifer Winans, Mr. Patrick Woehrle, and Mr. Bobby Zafarnia.

In addition, Katie Rosenberg who served as a page, and 75, more than 75 interns who served in our offices in Washington and throughout the district.

These individuals have, in many ways, become an extension of our family; and we will always be grateful.

I also want to thank the professional staff with whom I have had the privilege to work with here on the floor, the Parliamentarian, the Sergeant at Arms, the Chaplain, the Clerk, and the Cloakroom and in committee. They, too, are among the most dedicated souls I have ever met. As some may know, I, too, was once staff of this institution and I understand the burdens of their jobs and I leave with nothing but the highest respect.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank my family for allowing me the opportunity to seek and undertake my position as a Member of the House. As every Member knows, this job, with all of its glory and grandeur, can be grueling on our families. No Member is an exception to this rule. But, at the same time, my wonderful wife, Tamra, who is in the gallery today and our two beautiful daughters, Louise and Meredith, have found a home and an extended family in this body.

I can still remember my first day on January 4, 1995, sitting just to the right of where I stand today with our two girls, then just 2 and 4. It was a long day with a lot of speeches. The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), juggled Meredith, while Louise searched the floor for something else to do.

Throughout the years, these two girls have grown up in part on this floor, playing in the cloakroom, wrestling and dozing off in chairs during late-night debates. They harassed the staff, created havoc, and always felt at home.

I cannot thank the Members and the staff enough for what you have done to

make my family part of the experience. They have had to put up with a lot, nights and days away, missed school events and uncertain schedules.

□ 1230

All too often Tamra had to play the role of both parents in my absence. I know it was not easy.

I once heard Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia speak at the National Prayer Breakfast, and he said, when asked what his greatest accomplishment was in all those years in the other body, that "I kept my family together." He was right. But I also know that Tamra, Louise, Meredith, and I will miss this place, and it will forever be etched upon our hearts.

Mr. Speaker, 8 years ago I was given the opportunity to serve my fellow citizens of Texas' 25th Congressional District, my State, and my Nation. Few get that chance, not only to witness history, but to participate in its making, even if in a small way. I have had that chance, and I have tried my hardest every day to do the very best that I could. We did not win every battle, but I believe we finished ahead of where we started. I am confident that our efforts have resulted in the betterment of people's lives.

Most of all, I have had the chance to serve my people, doing the same that our forefathers did more than 200 years ago in the founding of this Nation. The people of the 25th Congressional District gave me this opportunity to be a part of history and the American democratic experiment, and for that I shall be eternally grateful.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 12:40 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 12:40 p.m.

□ 1254

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) at 12 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.

REQUESTING SENATE TO RETURN OFFICIAL PAPERS ON S. 1843, EXTENDING CERTAIN HYDROELECTRIC LICENSES IN THE STATE OF ALASKA

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to request the Senate to return the official papers on S. 1843, to extend certain hydroelectric licenses in the State of Alaska.

The House is requesting the return of these official papers to correct an inadvertent error that emerged during its

post-passage processing. We are hopeful that the Senate will agree to this request and allow the will of the House on this bill to be reflected.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING WORLD SERIES BASEBALL CHAMPIONS, THE ANAHEIM ANGELS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. Cox) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the time of the House of Representatives to bring to our attention the thrilling victory of the Anaheim Angels in the World Series. Just last week, this House approved a resolution, which I authored and which was cosponsored by the congressional delegation from Orange County, California, commending the Anaheim Angels. That resolution, not surprisingly, passed unanimously.

I would like to just take the time that we did not have, because of the press of business at that moment, to describe a little bit of what went on in the run-up to the World Series and just what an extraordinary group of men won this championship baseball series; what an extraordinary group of men, women and children throughout Southern California, and I think ultimately throughout America, were behind them in their heroic efforts.

I think everyone knows that the Anaheim Angels had a rough start to their season. They started out losing 14 of their first 20 games. Now, a lot of us here in the political line of work, a lot of people who watch baseball as an avocation for sports, understand what it is like to get behind the 8-ball, what it is like to know that not only are you not on top of the heap, but you are way behind, and nobody expects you to win. This did not hold back the Anaheim Angels in the end one wit. In fact, it was ultimately the source of their strength.

They came from behind not just at the beginning of the season to overcome this 14 out of 20 deficit, but time after time after time when they were behind in even the late innings of baseball games. That is what kind of grit and determination this team had that put them on top throughout the playoffs and ultimately throughout the best of seven in the World Series. That is why we were all so proud in this House of Representatives to congratulate the winning team in this year's World Series, because they are emblematic of what is so great about American sport and, ultimately, about American character, this never-give-up, never-say-die attitude.

As a regular fan of the Angels, particularly because my kids are so inspired by Angels baseball and such baseball fans and players themselves, I

could not have had more fun this season. I attended a lot of Angels' games, starting with their first home game and going throughout the season, ultimately winding up with that exceptional playoff series against the New York Yankees, then against the Minnesota Twins, and finally against the San Francisco Giants.

I do not think that there is much in baseball that can compare to it, particularly since in game six of the World Series we had the greatest comeback in World Series history. Again, just so typical of the grit and determination of this Angels team, coming from behind time and time and time again.

The players on this team work hard. They play the game the way it should be played. They sacrificed their individual ambitions for the good of the team. There is so much that we can all take away from this, so much to learn about what makes success. They did their jobs with dignity.

The spirit of the team is captured on the words of the "Thunder Sticks" that were used so often during the World Series, "Yes, we can!" It is as good for everybody in America as it was for the fans of the Anaheim Angels this year.

Nobody can forget the "Rally Monkey." But the rally monkey was really a way for the players to inspire and honor their team, because this was all about the team. This was all about the individual players and how they worked together and contributed to that overall effort.

Nobody can forget how Tim Salmon came to the plate in game two to hit two home runs, giving the Angels a crucial home victory before the series moved to San Francisco for three games.

Nobody can forget how Scott Spiezio hit a three-run homer which brought the Angels to within two in the bottom of the 7th inning in game six.

Nobody can forget Darin Erstad and his long ball in the eighth inning, which carried the Angels to within one run of the Giants; and Troy Glaus, who sent a double into left field, scoring the tying run and the go-ahead run that gave the Angels a six-to-five win.

Each one of these players, a different one seemingly every time, rose to the occasion, and that is what made this such a team effort. There was David Eckstein, Garret Anderson, and all the rest of the Angels whose outstanding play put away game seven.

There was always, at the most exciting moment, Troy Percival to close the game. Percival's remarkable pitching has already become the stuff of World Series legend. And the Anaheim Angels of 2002 will go down in history as a team built on character and on heart.

Sure, we have our Gold Glove winners, Ben Molina, the catcher; Darin Erstad, the center fielder. Sure, we have our stars. In fact, ultimately everyone on this team was a star. But more than anything it was a team.

□ 1300

It was a team of champions. With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance

of my time to the gentle monkey from California.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. UNDERWOOD) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. UNDERWOOD, for 5 minutes, today. (The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. Cox, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Ms. PELOSI and to include extraneous material, notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost \$3,023.

SENATE BILLS REFERRED

Bills and a concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following titles were taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 754. An act to enhance competition for prescription drugs by increasing the ability of the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission to enforce existing anti-trust laws regarding brand name drugs and generic drugs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 2799. An act to provide for the use and distribution of certain funds awarded to the Gila River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2869. An act to facilitate the ability of certain spectrum auction winners to pursue alternative measures required in the public interest to meet the needs of wireless telecommunications consumers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S. 2949. An act to provide for enhanced aviation security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

S. 2951. An act to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science.

S. 3172. An act to improve the calculation of the Federal subsidy rate with respect to certain small business loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget; in addition to the Committee on Small Business for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.